

THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053



April 18, 2006

Judith Judson, Chairman
Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy
Cable Television Division
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

RE: CTV 06-1

Dear Ms. Judson:

We are writing to express our concerns to Verizon's "Petition for Adoption of Competititive License Regulation" (Docket No. CTV-06). As the Legislative Delegation for Lakeville and various towns across Southeastern Massachusetts, we appreciate the opportunity to share our concerns regarding this proposal.

This proposal would allow Verizon an established, shorter timeframe for negotiating with local officials to offer video services to the residents of each city and town in the Commonwealth. With this proposal, there has been increased concern that this would negatively impact the bargaining process for our state's cities and town have when negotiating contracts. Many of the Commonwealth's cities and towns have bargained in good faith throughout the years with other providers and it is possible that this proposal could strongly damage such established relationships.

We understand that increased competition within the cable television market may ultimately benefit the consumers of Massachusetts. However, this proposal is not going to help our citizens; it will require local officials to make important decisions without having an appropriate amount of time to negotiate with providers.

We appreciate your time in reviewing our concerns. Please feel free to contact us if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Joan M. Menard

State Senator, First Bristol and Plymouth

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Stephen R. Canessa State Representative, 12th Bristol District

John F. Quinn State Representative, 9th Bristol District

Rita Garbitt, Lakeville Town Administrator Lakeville Board of Selectmen cc:

Lakeville Cable Advisory Committee